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CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Report

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the District

for the year ended

31st December, 1962

Medical Officer of Health

L. RICH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

11 West Street, Congleton (Congleton 3655/6)

Public Health Inspector

P. KIRKHAM, M.P.H.I.A.

Engineer and Surveyor

R. O. BIRTWISTLE, M.I.MUN.E., A.R.I.C.S.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Congleton Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1962.

Once again there has been a substantial increase in the estimated population which has gone up by 500 and now stands at 14,750.

The balance of births over deaths is only 14 so that the increase is due to a movement of population into the area. There are several substantial areas of new development taking place throughout the Rural District with more projected, and there is no doubt that to many people living in a healthy rural area and commuting to built up places to work is becoming more and more the pattern of modern life. All this however, brings certain inescapable problems such as the provision of proper drainage. The Council is tackling these tasks vigorously but of necessity a certain order of priority must be established. Nevertheless, the health hazards of unsatisfactory drainage are very great and it would appear that to meet the new conditions an intensification of the present efforts are required.

The year was marked by the opening of the second scheme of Flatlet accommodation at Scholar Green. We have now had sufficient experience to judge that at both Holmes Chapel and Scholar Green the Warden supervision together with all the other services for elderly infirm that can be provided under these circumstances are fulfilling everything that was hoped for.

The year under review was singularly free of notifiable infectious disease. It has been in former years commonplace to report on the disappearance of Diphtheria from the community. It is now becoming possible to say the same about Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis. This satisfactory state of affairs has been brought about by an intensive and well-maintained scheme of immunisation. Every endeavour is made to see that a high level of immunisation is brought about for without doubt if our efforts were relaxed we should once again be faced with the problem of dealing with these serious epidemic diseases.

The problem of Tuberculosis is also slowly but surely being overcome. The great advances in medical treatment of this condition together with the regular vaccination of school children and contacts, the periodic visits of the Mass X-Ray unit and last but by no means least the general level of improvement of housing and standards of nutrition have all made their significant contributions to this state of affairs. Generally speaking if disease is to be conquered the Public must be prepared to accept and take advantage of the advances of medical science provided always, and this is paramount, sufficient care and investigation is carried out before any new measure is introduced. Occasionally, as with all human undertakings, tragic accidents occur as with the Thalidomide disaster. As harrowing as these events are we must not become afraid of adopting new discoveries but become resolved to make our safety tests as stringent as can possibly be devised. Such a case is that of the Fluoridation of Water Supplies to prevent dental decay, particularly in children. A great discovery has been made. If properly used with maximum safety precautions, great benefits can result. The whole matter has been given the greatest degree of consideration by the best available experts not only in this country but over the whole world. The majority verdict is that Fluoride in water supplies should be adopted and in my humble opinion this is the right course to adopt.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Clerk, Mr. W. H. Cross, and the members of his staff for their help and guidance given most readily at all times. In particular I would like to thank Mr. P. Kirkham, with whom I work most closely, for the assistance he has given me generally and to him and Mr. R. O. Birtwistle for the contribution they have made to this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health

Throughout this report the figures in brackets are for the year 1961 and are for purposes of comparison

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population	14750	(14250)
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Births

Live Births—

			<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	232 (186)	119	(101)	113	(85)
Illegitimate	...		6 (5)	4	(2)	2	(3)

Still Births—

Legitimate	...	...	4 (5)	1	(2)	3	(3)
Illegitimate	...		— (2)	—	(—)	—	(2)

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid-1962	16.2	(14.0)
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Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population	18.0	(17.4)
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Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	16.5	(35.3)
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	--------

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and still) births	18.1	(19.1)
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	--------

Still birth rate per 1000 total population26	(.49)
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total population33	(.33)
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :

			<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	3 (1)	2	(1)	1	(—)
Illegitimate	...		1 (—)	—	(—)	1	(—)

Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births	16.8	(5.2)
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	-------

Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales	21.4	(21.6)
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	--------

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	12.9	(5.3)
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	-------

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	166.6	(—)
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------	-----

Deaths

			<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Deaths (all ages)	224 (235)	122	(124)	102	(111)

Death rate per 1000 estimated average population	9.7	(10.8)
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Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of population	11.9	(12.0)
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The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the year :

CAUSE							Total	Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms of	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	15	6	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	28	13	15
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	24	16	8
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	18	10	8
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	1
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	11	9	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	83	38	45
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
TOTAL							224	122	102

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)

Maternity mortality rate per 1000 live and still births 0 (0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

The work at the clinics has been steadily maintained and I wish to thank all those hard-working Voluntary Helpers who render such valuable service and are such an essential part of the scheme.

Welfare Centre	New cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per Clinic seen by Doctor
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Goostrey	51 (39)	— (—)	— (—)	469 (392)	156 (190)	308 (257)	24 (24)	341 (296)	14.2 (12.3)
Holmes Chapel ...	36 (51)	— (—)	— (—)	301 (545)	122 (137)	92 (94)	22 (23)	217 (338)	9.8 (14.6)
Mow Cop	14 (17)	— (—)	— (—)	231 (177)	52 (59)	45 (33)	25 (24)	164 (196)	6.5 (8.1)
Rode Heath ...	25 (18)	— (—)	— (—)	220 (251)	119 (92)	200 (164)	23 (24)	208 (144)	9.0 (6.0)
Scholar Green ...	27 (25)	— (—)	— (—)	354 (337)	140 (119)	146 (115)	23 (23)	239 (187)	10.3 (8.1)

The names of the Health Visitors covering the Rural District are as follows :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Districts</i>
Dawson, H. M.	Bollin Grove, Prestbury Tel. Knutsford 3273	Goostrey
Barlow, M.	Ingleton, 4 Plant Lane, Elton Tel. Sandbach 155	Church Hulme, Cranage, Tetton
Richardson, B.	White House, Crewe Road, Alsager Tel. Alsager 395	Church Lawton, Odd Rode, Smallwood
Furness, H. M.	15 Centre Court, Alsager Tel. Alsager 628	Betchton, Hassall
Williams, N. R.	Ivy Cottage, Snelson, Chelford Tel. Chelford 489	Hulme Walfield, Somerford, Somerford Booths, Swettenham, Twemlow
Mackie, J.	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Av., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 970	Arclid, Brereton
Rae, E. O.	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Av., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 970	Bradwall, Elton
Corbishley, M.	The Clinic, Park Street, Congleton Tel. Congleton 2095	Moreton-cum- Alcumlow, Newbold Astbury

Home Nursing

The District Nurses serving our area act in double capacity as Home Nurses and Midwives. They are as follows :

V. SPENCER, Black and White Cottage, Astbury	Congleton 3451
G. MAGEE, Booth Bed Lane, Goostrey	Holmes Chapel 3244
L. B. BLUNSUM, 19 West Way, Holmes Chapel	Holmes Chapel 2226
H. BARRY, 2 Drenfell Road, Scholar Green	Kidsgrove 2929
I. HOYLE, 9 Offley Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 852
M. WAINWRIGHT, 87 Platt Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 256

We are constantly enlarging the items of nursing equipment available for assisting patients in their own homes.

The types of articles available are :

Wheel Chairs	Urine Bottles	Aid Beds
Air Rings	Lift	Back Rests
Bed Pans	Bed Cages	Special Bed
Crutches	Rubber Sheets	Enuresis Blankets
Commodes		

We are also finding that the Disposable Sheets are invaluable for dealing with cases of incontinence. It is also possible in suitable cases to provide a "Foul Washing" service.

Births 1962

Hospital		Home		Private Nursing Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
158	2	70	1	—	—
(124)	(4)	(71)	(1)	(—)	(—)

It is satisfactory to note that once again there has been no Maternal death.

Chiropody

The use of this service has grown enormously and the demand was so great that it has been found necessary to reduce the number of treatments after the first six monthly treatments to one treatment every two months. However, in exceptional cases where it is necessary to give the treatment more frequently, it is possible to do this under the scheme.

The scales for chiropody have altered and are as follows :

Free Treatments—Those in receipt of National Assistance Benefit or whose income does not exceed £4/13/6 per week in the case of single persons, or £6/19/6 per week in the case of married couples.

Half cost paid by Cheshire County Council—When income between £4/13/7 and £6/3/6 per week in the case of single persons. When income between £6/13/7 and £8/19/6 per week in the case of married couples.

This scale may be varied from time to time.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

In the second half of the year a very large scheme was undertaken to provide oral vaccination for Poliomyelitis for all school children in the South East Cheshire Division. A letter was provided for every parent who was asked to give consent for this to be done. It is interesting to report that the response was over 90% and all the school children are now adequately protected.

At our Clinics mothers and young babies are being done regularly and all those not being re-inforced by us, the Family Doctors are doing.

I feel fairly confident that Poliomyelitis as a serious epidemic disease in this country has reached its end.

Attention is also drawn to the very large number of vaccinations against Smallpox that were carried out. These arose as a result of the Smallpox outbreaks that occurred at Bradford and South Wales. A good deal is written in the Medical Press about the possible dangers of vaccination against Smallpox and it is interesting to report that we had no serious case of complication in this area. It is still considered that the best time to carry out primary vaccinations against Smallpox is in early infancy.

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	1	(5)
School children	11	(1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12	(6)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	22	(134)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	—	(5)
School children	—	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	—	(5)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	4	(3)

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)

Pre-school children	161	(191)
School children	12	(35)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	173	(226)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	33	(48)

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough)

Pre-school children	2	(3)
School children	1	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3	(3)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	1	(17)

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Tetanus)

Pre-school children	1	(1)
School children	20	(83)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21	(84)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	101	(150)

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	168	(107)
School children	174	(11)
Adults	272	(6)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	614	(124)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	11	(1)
School children	234	(6)
Adults	533	(17)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	778	(24)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

It is not possible to separate the figures in respect of each County District and the table below shows the figures for the whole of South East Cheshire.

	SALK VACCINE				ORAL VACCINE			Reinf.
	1st injec.	2nd injec.	3rd injec.	4th injec.	1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose	dose aft. salk vaccine
Children born in 1962	1	—			1	3	103	
Children born in 1961	132	253			18	15	436	
Children and Young								
Persons born 1943-60	141	290			8551	7872	6760	
Persons born 1933-42	42	115			3	5	126	
Others	140	371			668	561	979	
TOTAL	456	1029	1758	156	9241	8456	8404	529

Public Health Laboratory Service

A new laboratory has opened at Chester which we find more convenient than going to Manchester.

Domestic Help Service

Statistics

Home Helps employed during 1962

Full time	—	(—)
Temporary	35	(42)
Casual	5	(8)
	<hr/> 40	<hr/> (50)

Home Helps employed at 31st December, 1962

Full time	—	(—)
Temporary	28	(31)
Casual	2	(4)
	<hr/> 30	<hr/> (35)

Applications received during 1962

Confinement	...	...	...	...	4	(6)
Sickness	...	...	...	...	3	(10)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	5	(10)
					<hr/> 12	<hr/> (26)

Cases attended during 1962

Confinement	...	...	...	...	4	(3)
Sickness	...	...	...	...	10	(14)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	29	(33)
					<hr/> 43	<hr/> (50)

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

I am indebted to Mr. Delwyn G. Davies, Engineer and Manager of the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board for the following information.

This district is supplied partly from the Mow Cop borehole, partly from the Delamere boreholes via the Allostock Booster, partly by a small bulk supply purchased from the Macclesfield and District Water Board, but mainly by River Dee water from the Hurleston Works supplied through a 12 inch main between Tetton and Holmes Chapel. A small amount of Hurleston water is also taken into the southern part of the district through Alsager where it may be mixed with a proportion of borehole water from Bearstone.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R. O. Birtwistle, for the reports on Sewerage and Housing.

Sewerage

During the year under review, progress has been made with the sewerage arrangements for the district as detailed in the following notes :

Parish of Church Hulme

Early in the year a further interview with the Ministry, resolved some details of design and caused meetings to be held with the three manufacturers in an endeavour to obtain firm information, as to the volumes and strengths of the trade wastes which they would discharge to the Council's sewers. On these figures and those for the domestic sewage flow, the design of the work could be based and the individual contributions could be calculated. It was not until the year end that some finality was reached.

Meanwhile, the Ministry approved that part of the scheme for the laying of sewers, and agreed to the construction of sludge drying beds in lieu of the proposed sludge lagoon.

Tenders were invited for these works in December.

Parish of Church Lawton

The scheme of sewerage for the Red Bull district of the parish was approved by the Ministry, and tenders were invited in April, the contract starting on 10th August.

By the year end, 27% of the sewers had been laid.

Odd Rode Sewerage

The report was presented on the proposals for the sewerage of Rode Heath and for the enlargement of the treatment works at Snapes Aqueduct in the parish of Church Lawton. The Council approved the proposals for submission to the Ministry of Health.

The site of the disposal works was tested and found to be satisfactory over about three-quarters its area, but special precautions will have to be taken in constructing some of the plant where the ground is waterlogged and contains peat.

Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining the additional land required, the District Valuer failing to reach agreement with the land owner. Delay in submitting the proposals to the Ministry thereby resulted.

Consideration was given to the proposal that a small isolated sewage treatment plant near to Lawton Station should be replaced by a pumping station, the effluent being discharged to existing sewers. The rising main will need to pass beneath the railway, but satisfactory arrangements can be made regarding this. The only problem outstanding is that of agreeing the siting of the pumping station with the land owner, whose thoughts have now been stimulated in the direction of developing the land for building purposes.

Extension repairs to a filter wall at the Odd Rode Sewage Disposal Works were undertaken. The bricks bought at a time when supplies were difficult had disintegrated under the influence of frost.

A venturi flume recorder was installed at the works and records are being collected so that in due course it will be possible to report on enlargements which will be necessary in order to produce an effluent of the standard required by the River Board. In the few weeks to the end of the year after installation, the highest recorded flow during a period of heavy rain was 240,000 gallons per day.

The problem of disposing of night soil is one which will need consideration. The tipping into the sewer on the works site is not satisfactory, as the sudden discharge of concentrated waste matter disturbs the contents of the sedimentation tanks to such an extent that the effluent is affected. One solution to be considered is to discharge the night soil on to a sludge drying bed allocated for the purpose, but there may be objection to this, as the waste matter will not have received any pre-treatment. Composting apart from disposal directly on the land is probably the most suitable means of disposal, but there appears to be no sale from the resulting compost.

Public Conveniences

The experiment with the installation of a liquid hand cleanser and paper towels in the ladies' section appears to have been quite successful, although no comments have been made by users.

This small public convenience situated in the centre of the village of Hoimes Chapel is well hidden by a shrubbery, and seems to suffer perhaps more than usual from the activities of vandals. Apart from the apparently inevitable murals which necessitate annual internal painting, the cash containers have been stolen from the coin locks on no fewer than three occasions. While no doubt serving a very useful purpose, particularly for the passing bus passenger, the service is comparatively costly.

Sewer Extensions

Only one short sewer extension was made during the year. In Woodcocks Lane, Mow Cop the sewer was extended to serve new properties being built.

Sewer Repairs

One sewer repair was necessary in Manor Lane, Holmes Chapel. The work was satisfactorily carried out by the Council's staff.

Bus Shelters

The Council have agreed to contribute one half of the cost of providing bus shelters in their district, the Parish Council being expected to raise the remainder and take the initiative in erecting the shelter.

A number of Parish Councils have shown interest, but no shelters have yet been erected.

HOUSING

The second block of old people's flats at Meadow Bank, Kent Green in the parish of Odd Rode was formally opened by the Chairman of the Housing Committee in March, and during the year the occupants settled to their new surroundings under the very capable supervision of the Wardens.

The occupants of the first block erected in Holmes Chapel are understood to like their new homes very well, and no serious troubles have been encountered. Television sets have been installed in each block by local voluntary organisations.

During the year also there were completed eight bungalows at Hassall Green, two in Brown Avenue, Lawton Gate, five at Wavertree Avenue, Meadow Bank, and the reconditioning of the sub-standard houses, No. 56 Cinderhill Lane, Kent Green, and Rosemary Cottage, Hassall.

Improvements to older houses

The baths in the nine houses erected under the 1919 Act in Middlewich Road, Holmes Chapel were in the sculleries — by 1962, circumstances were such that each family did not require the third small bedroom, and so it was decided to provide new baths in those rooms.

Site for Private Development

Having now erected 1,059 dwellings and five shops, the stage has been reached where the "housing to let" needs of the district have been almost completely satisfied — apart from meeting the demand for smaller living units for the elderly. In consequence, it would seem that the Council's proposals for the future will be restricted to building small bungalows and possibly further flats.

There is, however, an increasing demand in the district for "houses to buy," and this is evidenced by the private development

sites which are now being developed at Goostrey, Hall Green and Lawton Gate (Church Lawton).

On the Goostrey and Lawton Gate sites (Lawton Grange), the purchaser is limited to buying the type of dwelling the builder decides to erect, but at Lawton Gate (Sandbach Road) the design is not restricted, but there is no choice of builder, while at Hall Green there is freedom of choice in both respects.

The Council considered that such freedom was desirable in Holmes Chapel, and they purchased a small holding, constructed roads and sewers and sold off twenty-one individual building plots. The scheme has met with success and an extension is likely to follow.

Mount Pleasant Development

The roads and sewers serving the land which belonged to Woodcock's Farm (now owned by the Council) were commenced during 1962 in advance of the Council's first stage of their building programme for Mount Pleasant in the parish of Odd Rode. This development is to consist of seventeen bungalows for the elderly. Some will be of the one bedroom type and others will contain two bedrooms.

Although, at one time, the villages of Mount Pleasant and Mow Cop housed many miners, there are few living there now, and the Council felt justified in deciding to build these bungalows as "all electric" dwellings. It was decided not to adopt underfloor heating, but to employ electric fires and radiators, and storage water heaters in order to provide space and water heating.

Garages

The demand for garages is still growing and the number owned by the Council has been increased during the year. More tenants have been permitted to build their own garages where space alongside the house is available. The problem is becoming more and more difficult now that the police are taking action against people parking on grass verges.

Maintenance of Council Houses

The maintenance of the Council's houses is undertaken by a staff of twelve men, including a Foreman (Bricklayer), Bricklayer, Joiner, Plumber, two Labourers, and six Painters.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the staff will have to be increased if prompt and efficient service is to be given. While it is not considered that the number of complaints has been excessive

for the number of houses involved, the time lag in completing repairs is too long. In the early months of the year, the frost was severe and bursts resulted in a considerable increase in the number of repairs required.

The painting of Council houses by the Council's own staff has been continued, but as in previous years it has not been possible to approach by a considerable margin, the target figure of 200 houses per annum (assuming that the houses are painted on a 5 year cycle). The results, however, are proving that the quality of work done by our own staff is such that in time it may be possible to extend the cycle to 6 years, and this will then result in some economy.

Refrigerators

There have been very few applications for refrigerators during the year and it must be assumed that tenants are buying or hiring their own. The problem of disposing of old refrigerators on which the loan period has expired, has been solved by selling the unit to the tenant for a nominal charge.

Maintenance of Housing Estates

Each year, the Council undertakes an inspection of their housing properties. Two days are spent on the tour of inspection, divided into northerly and southerly groupings. To inspect in great detail some 500 dwellings on about 30 sites is an impossible task, but most sites are visited and one or more properties is inspected.

The improvement in the condition of the estates generally has been noted and the regular attention given by the grass maintenance staff is producing good results.

It is becoming clear that this aspect of maintenance will need constant attention, and consideration might well be given to the creation of a small gang provided with transport and the necessary tools who would carry out the work and also maintain the small sewage treatment plants of which there are so many at the small housing sites.

Private Development

There was a slight reduction in the number of private development plans deposited during the year — 426 compared with 489 in 1961 ; an average of 35 per month.

The following table sets out the numbers of plans dealt with under each of the various headings.

These developments call for about 1500 inspections each year.

Private Development Plans Deposited

			<i>Byelaws only</i>	<i>Byelaws & Planning</i>	<i>Planning only</i>	<i>Outline Planning</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	...	...	7	12	5	3	27
February	...	...	8	16	2	5	31
March	...	...	7	15	6	4	32
April	...	...	12	20	5	2	39
May	...	...	10	24	7	5	46
June	...	...	3	12	4	11	30
July	...	...	4	16	6	14	40
August	...	...	11	14	8	8	41
September	...	...	12	15	8	6	41
October	...	...	15	12	5	9	41
November	...	...	7	12	9	4	32
December	...	...	5	12	5	4	26
TOTALS			101	180	70	75	426

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Tuberculosis

One case was notified and the number of people on register at 31st December, 1962 is shown below :

				Up to 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	—	—	1	—	3	2	7	1	2		16
Female Pulmonary	—	—	1	3	3	4	5	—	—		16
Male Non-Pulmonary	...		—	—	1	2	5	1	1	—	1		11
Female Non-Pulmonary	...		—	—	1	6	1	2	1	4	—		15

For comparative purposes, I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1962 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1953.

Notifications — 1953 to 1962

	1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961		1962	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5			1	1	1															
5-15				1	1		1													
15-25								1												
25-35			1					1									1			
35-45																				
45-55							1		2											
55-65	1						1		1					1						
65 and over																				
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5			1																	
5-15									1								1			
15-25		2			2		2							1						1
25-35	1				1	1														
35-45	1								1								1			
45-55													1				1			
55-65					1															
65 and over																				
TOTAL	3	2	3	2	4	3	4	1	6	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	2	0	1

Deaths — 1953 to 1962

	1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959		1960		1961		1962	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5			1																	
5-15																				
15-25																				
25-35																				
34-45																				
45-55			1						1				2		1					
55-65	1						1													
65 and over							1													
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5																				
5-15																				
15-25																				
25-35					1															
35-45					1															
45-55																				
55-65																				
65 and over													1							
TOTAL	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1962

DISEASE	AGE DISTRIBUTION													Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
	Under 1	1- 2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over				
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	5	—	
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Measles	1	2	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	7	—	
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department and have been compiled by Mr. P. Kirkham, the Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The establishment of five driver/loaders, one spare driver/loader and nine loaders has not been increased. Owing to one employee having been dismissed for misconduct, three further employees, two of them relatives, gave notice. Two other employees left on other grounds, but fortunately no difficulty was experienced in obtaining replacements. The Council's bonus scheme operates well and was probably instrumental in not only obtaining new employees, but in keeping the reduced staff working satisfactorily and up to date with collection. Only two complaints were received in the year regarding failure to collect — one was found to have been caused owing to access not having been available and the other was of failure to empty to whole of the contents of a bin. Overtime is paid at Bank Holidays and a regular weekly collection is maintained throughout the year. The following table gives details of the bonus scheme and shows that an increase of 146 units has occurred during the year principally through newly erected properties.

(a) Driver and two loaders

District	2 Loaders Target	Units Collected 1/1/62	Bonus 1/1/62	Units Collected 31/12/62	Bonus 31/12/62
1	998	1027	29	1055	57
2	1042	1102	60	1153	111
3	950	971	21	988	38
4	998	1024	26	1074	76
TOTALS	3988	4124	136	4270	282

(b) Driver and one loader

District	1 Loader Target	Units Collected 1/1/62	Bonus 1/1/62	Units Collected 31/12/62	Bonus 31/12/62
1	650	1027	377	1055	405
2	689	1102	413	1153	464
3	625	971	346	988	363
4	650	1024	374	1074	424
TOTALS	2614	4124	1510	4270	1656

Vehicles and Maintenance

The drivers completed the year without being involved in any accidents for which they could be considered blameworthy. The Council are members of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and safe driving awards are presented as they become eligible.

One of the drivers is employed as a foreman/mechanic and carries out all routine repairs. Very little work is required to be done by private contract. The foreman spends the majority of his time on repair and maintenance of vehicles, and the Council have now agreed to pay a travelling allowance to him when using his own vehicle in connection with his work. The department now also undertakes the routine repair and maintenance of the four vehicles of the Engineer and Surveyor. The Depot at Arclid is equipped for this work and tools and plant are added as the necessity arises and Estimates allow. A second vehicle had its side loading body renewed after ten years and it is hoped that such vehicles will be able to complete fifteen years service.

The cesspool emptier, a 650 gallon petrol vehicle, 1953, is to be replaced in 1963 by a 1000 gallon diesel vehicle.

The following details are given of mileage and fuel during the year (total figures for 1961 are shown in parenthesis).

Number	Make	Duty	Mileage	Petrol	m.p.g.
PMB 602	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6638	1160	5.7
PMB 603	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6039	1111	5.4
WMA363	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	8385	1397	6.0
743 NFM	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	5943	1030	5.7
PMB 604	Karrier Cesspool Emptier	Septic Tanks and Nightsoil	9405	2238	4.2
PMB 601	Karrier Gamecock (spare vehicle)	Septic Tanks and Refuse Collection	2276	420	5.4
			38686 (37248)	7356 (7021)	5.2 (5.3)
894 STU	Fordson Tractor	Refuse Tips & Sewage Works, etc.	71 gallons of Diesel Oil used during 1962		

Septic Tank Service

The cesspool emptier is employed for a little over two days each week emptying pail closets and the remainder servicing septic tanks, etc.

On three sites where there are more than four properties in different ownership draining to one tank, the Council have agreed

to waive the charge. Polythene hose is being used experimentally and should it be found satisfactory, a considerable proportion of the 200 feet carried could be converted to this type when the armoured hose becomes unserviceable. The table below shows the work carried out on this service during the year. Figures for 1961 are shown in parenthesis. The totals for 1960 are also shown below to illustrate the greatly increased work done by this vehicle over a comparatively short period.

<i>Type of Tank</i>	<i>No. of Loads</i>	<i>No. of Hours</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>	<i>No. of diff. tanks</i>
Domestic	223 (152)	249 (204¼)	158 (112)	129 (108)
Non-Domestic	703 (532)	482 (377)	133 (110)	57 (54)
Council Houses	124 (133)	152 (178½)	68 (70)	37 (39)
Council Sewage Works ...	49 (51)	50 (59¾)	19 (21)	5 (7)
Outside Area	15 (14)	17 (26¼)	9 (12)	8 (11)
TOTALS (1962/1961)	1114 (882)	950 (845¾)	387 (325)	236 (219)
(1960)	(735)	(798)	(305)	(190)

Refuse Disposal

The greater part of the house refuse is disposed of at the Council's tip in the birch wood adjoining the Depot. Four other tips are in use at Rode Heath, Twemlow, Holmes Chapel and Brereton. Use of the new Fordson Tractor and Ski-Hi loader and bucket in covering the tips has resulted in much improved control. Refuse tipped over five years ago is used as covering material. Infestation by flies was well controlled and although this could be attributed partly to the poor summer, it is felt the measures taken in covering and treatment were largely responsible for the better conditions this year. During warmer weather, sides are covered each night and the face each week-end. In addition, regular treatment with D.D.T. and Malathion is carried out.

Salvage

Owing to a reported reduction in demand yet again, further reductions in price occurred together with a request from the merchants to restrict collection and baling as much as possible. The following tables summarise the year's work. Figures for 1961 are shown in parenthesis.

<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Weights</i>						<i>Revenue</i>					
	<i>t</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>q</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>q</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
Container Waste ...	7	11	3	(11	16	1)	67	3	1	(117	14	0)
Mixed Baled Paper ...	9	5	1	(16	16	0)	58	8	7	(123	13	4)
Baled Newspapers and Magazines	14	15	0	(20	4	0)	86	8	6	(121	4	0)
	31	12	0	(48	16	1)	£212	0	0	(£362	11	4)

<i>Expenditure</i>				<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>
Materials	...	...	...	11	9	6	(30	0	0)
Labour	...	...	...	204	5	4	(241	0	0)
				£215	14	10	(£271	0	0)

It will be seen that a small loss of approximately £3 occurred on the year's working. Nevertheless, I feel salvage should continue as it is a most satisfactory means of disposal of a tremendous amount of combustible material (over 31 tons in 1962) which would otherwise have to go on to the tips.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Following routine inspection of food premises, the following matters were brought to the notice of persons responsible for carrying on the food business at twenty-one premises :

Reg. 6(1)	Provision of impervious equipment and cleansing of same	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Reg. 8	Placing of food not less than 18" from the ground								1
Reg. 14	Cleanliness of sanitary convenience and room and affixing of hand washing notices	...	...	...					5
Reg. 16	Provision of wash-hand basins, etc.	...	...	...					4
Reg. 17	Maintenance of first aid materials	...	...	...					1
Reg. 19	Provision of hot water at a sink	...	...	...	...				1
Reg. 23	Cleanliness and repair of food rooms, etc.				...				9
Reg. 24	Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...			2

A complaint was received that sharp particles had been found in a tin of strained creamed cereal whilst a six month old child was being fed. The matter was investigated by the County Weights and Measures Department and the sharp particles were found to be crystals of calcium salt of organic acid, probably derived by interaction of the constituents of the food. The identity of the acid could

not be proved due to the minute size of the crystals. The manufacturers admitted that calcium tartrate crystals might be present in old stock due to an interaction of the acids in the milk and sultanas. No further action was taken by the Weights and Measures, but the Council were assured by the manufacturers that changes had been made to the recipe to avoid a repetition. The whole of the affected stock from the particular premises was removed.

A loaf of bread found to contain a used bandage was referred to the County Weights and Measures Department, and following legal proceedings, a fine of £25 was imposed on the manufacturers.

The following are the particulars of food premises in the area :

Grocers and General	39
Public Houses and Licensed Clubs ...	35
Cafes and Restaurants	22
School Canteens	20
Village Halls, etc.	9
Butchers	9
Factory Canteens	7
Sweets and Confectionery	6
Bakehouses	3
Fish and Chips	2
Chemists	2
Canning Factory	1
Dairy	2
Total	<hr/> 157 <hr/>

Note—Where a Cafe or Restaurant is attached to a public house or grocers, etc. it is shown under both heads.

41 premises are registered under Section 16(1)(a) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. There are nine other premises registered under Section 16(1)(b)—2 fish and chips, and 7 sausage and meat pies. 1 food canning factory is in the area.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

Only one slaughterhouse remains and kills for use only at the small shop attached. The following are details of the work carried out :

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	40	8	—	168	34	—
Number Inspected	40	8	—	168	34	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	2	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	5.0%	—	—	1.04%	8.8%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

For the second year, no evidence of tuberculosis was found.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Five licences were issued to people residing in the area.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

The following table shows details of a survey being carried out under the above provisions. All premises which are noted as Agricultural for rating purposes are being visited. Figures for 1961 are shown in parenthesis :

Employees Outside Family	No. of Premises Visited	SANITARY ACCOMMODATION			Letters sent re unsatisfactory or absence of sanitary accommodation
		Inside W.C.	Outside W.C.	Pail Closet	
None	79 (24)	37 (9)	28 (11)	33 (8)	—
1	26 (20)	7 (3)	12 (10)	12 (9)	7 (5)
More than 1...	23 (11)	16 (2)	12 (4)	6 (7)	8 (1)
TOTAL ...	128 (55)	60 (14)	52 (25)	51 (24)	15 (6)

Approximately one third of the total agricultural premises have now been inspected. It was found in seven cases where workers were employed outside the family, that no sanitary accommodation was provided outside the farm house and the owners have been requested to make suitable provision.

Factories Act, 1961

The following table gives information as to the number of factories and inspections made :

	No. on register	No. of inspections	No. of written notices
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	53	39	4
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	10	—
TOTAL	63	49	4

Cases in which defects were found

SANITARY CONVENIENCES (S.7)

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	2

Outworkers

Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.)	1
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SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Summary of Visits

Animals, keeping of	8
Conversions	61
Clean Air Act, 1956	7
Drainage—including septic tanks, etc.	151
Dustbins	5
Factory—with Mechanical Power	49
Food Premises—General	35
Food Premises—Bakehouses	2
Food Premises—Butchers	11
Food Premises—Cafe and Canteens	50
Food Premises—Dairy, etc.	10
Food Premises—Ice Cream	13
Food Premises—Hotels and Public Houses	13
Food Premises—Slaughterhouses	49
Food Premises—Unsound Food	6
Farms, San. Conveniences for Outworkers	169
Housing—General	300
Housing—Overcrowding	1
Housing—Council House Applications	21
Housing—Housing Act, 1949 (Grants)	351
Infectious Disease	2
Infectious Disease—Disinfection	5
Insect Pests	19
Nuisance—General	52
Nuisance—Housing	13
Petroleum	37
Rodent Control	45
Scavenging—General	40
Scavenging—Tips	27
Scavenging—Teams at work	8
Scavenging—Garages	232
Tents, Vans and Sheds	38
Water Supply	28
Miscellaneous—Interviews, etc.	63
TOTAL ...	1921

Number of Complaints received	117
Number of Informal Notices served	82
Number of Informal Notices complied with	71
Number of Statutory Notices served	14
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by owner ...	9
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by Local Authority in default of owner	4

Conversions

Following completion of the extensions to the sewer at Brereton Green, twelve properties on pail closets in the area have been converted to water closets. A further nine conversions were agreed to in the Thurlwood district for connection to a Council septic tank and three of these were completed.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

12 licences were in force at the beginning of the year covering 180 caravans on 12 sites. 4 new licences were issued during the year in respect of 15 caravans on 4 sites. These included 11 caravans on one site, and a single caravan site, for occupation by persons employed on the motorway construction and which were the subject of a successful appeal against Planning refusal.

Water Supply

16 samples of water were taken during the year, two of which were found to be unsatisfactory. One of these samples, after cleansing a storage tank, was found to be in order. In the second case, the owner is being approached to either connect to mains water or carry out purification.

Clean Air Act, 1956

It has not yet been thought opportune to institute smoke control areas in this Council's district as air pollution cannot be said to be of serious concern at the moment. A hospital has been converted from hand firing to automatic stoking and all the industrial premises in the areas are equipped with automatic stokers. Plans have been received for the conversion of a solid fuel furnace at one factory to oil.

Only one complaint was received of nuisance from smoke from a furnace chimney and this concerned a plant for boiling swill and for which coke was the appropriate fuel. The nuisance was found

to have occurred through the burning of other materials and informal action was successful in abating the nuisance.

A complaint was received of a recurring nuisance from the burning of trade waste in the open at a haulage contractor's premises and formal notification was served under Section 30(1) that a nuisance was considered to exist and requested measures to abate it. No further complaints have been received.

Rodent Control

Contracts have been carried out at 89 farms and industrial premises during the year and totalled £473. Private houses are treated free.

The following details are given of the work :

	<i>Number Treated</i>	<i>Number of visits</i>
Private Houses	58	179
Refuse Tips and Sewage Works	18	667
Industrial and Trade Premises ...	24	241
Farms	73	851
	<hr/> 173	<hr/> 1938

In addition, 36 private houses and 83 farms were surveyed during the year. Sewers again proved negative after test baiting.

The rodent operative is supplied with a van. He is a man over 65 and the Council have agreed to extend his services subject to annual review. A lever has been purchased for the removal of man-hole covers which enables the job to be done by the operative without necessarily having assistance.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928

50 premises are licensed for the storage of petroleum. Extracts were prepared from the Home Office Report on accidents occurring on premises licensed for the storage and sale of petrol and these were circulated to all licensees as a reminder of the dangers involved.

HOUSING

At the beginning of 1962, it was known that 47 houses were unfit for human habitation and suitable for action under Section 16/17 of the Housing Act, 1957. 9 further houses were reported upon as unfit during the year and a balance now remains of 35 unfit houses which are still occupied. Of this number, only 13 families are likely or wish to be re-housed by the Council, and of the remaining 22 houses, 15 are occupied by elderly people wishing to remain, 4 are farm holdings and 3 houses are likely to be re-conditioned.

The following indicates the action taken during the year :

Closing Orders	13
Closing Orders on part of buildings ...	1
Houses Demolished	2
Undertakings accepted	6
Demolition Orders made	15
Houses made fit and Undertakings cancelled or Closing Orders determined ...	10
Families re-housed by the Council ...	12
Number of persons	22
Families otherwise displaced	11
Number of persons	20

Improvement Grants

The Council continued to give every encouragement to owners to avail themselves of improvement grants. As the opportunity occurs, approaches are made to owners of rented properties and to owner/occupiers. In the case of rented properties, after inspecting the house and discussion with the tenant, an informal letter is addressed to the owner with a view to an interview to encourage provision of the improvements. Applications continue at a steady rate and the following indicates the work carried out during 1962 :

Discretionary Grants

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Applications approved (owner/occupiers)	...	...					16
Applications approved (others)	...	...	...	...			10
Total Grants approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	£6400
Total Grants approved since inception of the scheme approximately	...	...	...	...	...	...	£56400
Properties affected	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Owner/Occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	94

Standard Grants

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Applications approved (owner/occupiers)	...	...					11
Applications approved (others)	...	...	...	...			5
Number of houses having Grant paid	...	...	...				15
Amount of Grant paid	...	...	...	...	...	£1531/19/10	
Total number of houses having Grant since inception							35
Total amount of Grant since inception	...	...	...	...	...	£2776/19/0	

Certificates of Disrepair

Only one Certificate was issued during the year. In the case of three other applications, the Council accepted an Undertaking by the landlord to carry out repairs. An application was received for cancellation of a Certificate issued in 1961, but was not approved as all works had not been completed.

